

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 170110  
ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 /018 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:EA/ANZ:FCBENNETT

APPROVED BY:EA/ANZ:FCBENNETT

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EA/RA:PCLEVELAND

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R 060210Z JUL 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 7928

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FOLLOWING REPEAT BANGKOK 18697 ACTION SECSTATE AND KONG KONG INFO  
GENEVA, KUALA LUMPUR, AND INS/CO WASHDC DATED JUNE 30, 1978.

QUOTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 18697

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES: AMERICAN-OWNED VESSEL, THE STYX,  
RESCUES 43 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES

REF: (A) BANGKOK 18168 (B) STATE 161499 (C) STATE 162345

1. REF A REPORTED THE ARRIVAL OF THE STYX. THE UNHCR AND  
THE EMBASSY HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN EXTENSIVE CONVERSATIONS  
WITH MINISTRY OF INTERIOR REFUGEE OFFICIALS ABOUT  
GUARANTEES FOR THE DEPARTURE FOR RESELLTMENT ABROAD OF

REFUGEES THAT THE STYX PICKED UP. RTG PRACTICE IS TO  
SET AN EARLY DEADLINE, USUALLY NO MORE THAN TWO WEEKS,  
FOR THE DEPARTURE OF REFUGEES BROUGHT TO THAILAND ON  
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FOREIGN-OWNED VESSELS.

2. THE REFUGEES HAVE THEREFORE BEEN HOVERING FOR SIX  
DAYS, WITHOUT PERMISSION TO DISEMBARK, ON THE SURFACE OF  
THIS 40-FOOT SAILBOAT. THE RTG OPERATIONAL OFFICIALS  
CONCERNED SUGGESTED AT ONE POINT THAT THE STYX SAIL ON TO  
ITS NEXT PORT OF CALL WITH THE REFUGEES ABOARD.

KEEPING IN MIND THE GUKDANCE IN REF B, WE FINALLY  
WORKED OUT A FORMULA JUNE 30 WITH THE MINISTRY OF INTERI-  
OR. WE SAID IN WRITING "WE WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO  
SEE THAT THEY LEAVE THAILAND BY 31 AUGUST 1978."  
RTG AUTHORITIES WERE EXTREMELY UPSET ABOUT SUCH A LONG  
TIME DELAY. BUT THEY HAVE APPARENTLY PERMITTED THE REFUGEES  
TO DISEMBARK, AND MOVE TO THE LAEMSING CAMP.

3. OF THE 43 REFUGEES, 7 ARE LIKELY CANDIDATES FOR  
FRANCE AND 6 FOR AUSTRALIA. THE REMAINING 30 ARE APPARENTLY  
OURS. WE SENT IN VISA FALCONS ON THEM JUNE 29.  
WE ASSIGNED CASE NUMBERS TO THE 30 AND FORWARDED  
BIOGRAPHIC DATA ON THEM TO ACVA JUNE 30, REQUESTING  
EXPEDITIOUS SPONSORSHIP.

4. GIVEN THE UNCERTAINTY OF THE TIMING OF THE SUPPLE-  
MENTAL APPROPRIATION (REF C), WE HAVE RESERVATIONS IN THIS CASE  
ABOUT THE ABILITY TO DRAW ON THE 1500 NUMBERS RESERVED  
FOR REFUGEES THAT AMERICAN VESSELS RESCUE. WE PROPOSE  
INSTEAD TO USE RECOUPED IPP-77 AND 78 BOAT CASE NUMBERS  
TO COVER THEM. WE CURRENTLY HAVE ENOUGH ON HAND TO DO  
SO. INS OFFICERS WILL BE IN THAILAND APPROXIMATELY JULY 8  
TO CONSIDER THEIR CASES.  
O'DONOHUE UNQUOTE VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEES, SEA RESCUES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 06 jul 1978  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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